



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 6, 2001

2001 EXPORT ADMINISTRATION ACT PASSES SENATE, INCLUDES BENNETT AMENDMENT

Act preserves leadership of U.S. high-tech industry

Washington, D.C.- To maintain America's high-tech edge in the world economy, the Senate today overwhelmingly passed the reauthorization of the Export Administration Act, including an amendment by Senator Bob Bennett (R-Utah), to repeal outdated and economically damaging restrictions on exports of high-performance computers.

"The best step we can take to preserve U.S. national security is to keep American high-tech firms in the forefront of the global market," said Bennett, a high-tech leader in the Senate and a member of the Senate Banking Committee. "If we attempt to prevent American firms from exporting technology while our international competitors are selling it all over the world, we not only jeopardize our economic stability, but our military stability as well."

S.149, which passed the Senate today 85-14, is strongly supported by the Bush administration, establishes an effective, modern framework for export controls by reforming and replacing the Export Administration Act of 1979. The EAA of 2001 moves to balance national security, economic security and foreign policy interests.

The Bennett amendment to the EAA, which was approved unanimously at the committee level, ensures that high performance computers will no longer be subject to the outdated and unrealistic MTOPS measurement put in place by the National Defense Authorization Act and will now be subject to provisions in the new EAA.

The Senate bill now goes to conference with the House.

###